MARVEL
FATHER VS. SON
THE PUNISHER 2099
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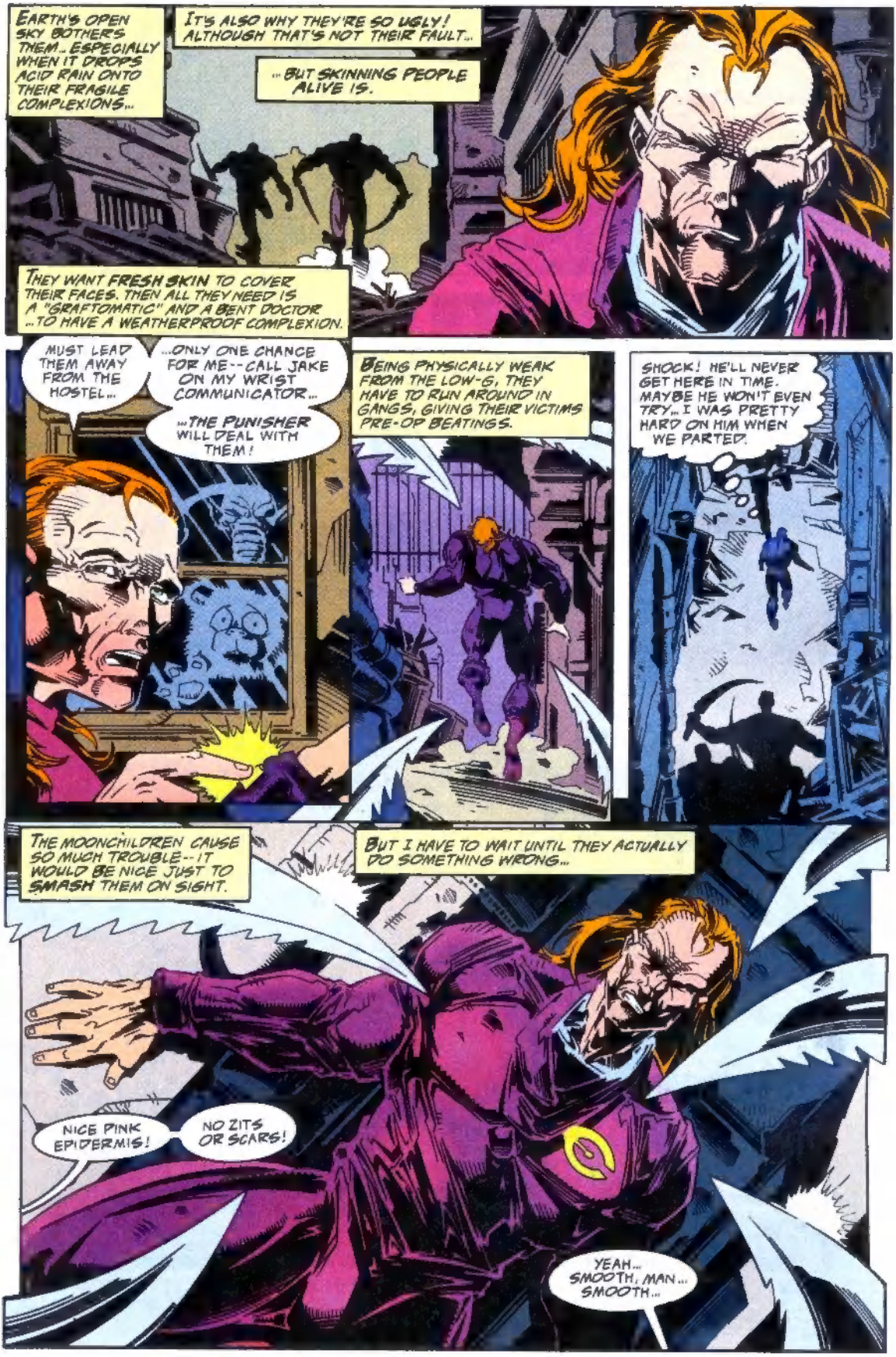
HIS FAMILY WAS MURDERED BY A PSYCHOPATH IN AN AGE WHERE JUSTICE CAN BE BOUGHT AND NO ONE BELIEVES IN OLD-FASHIONED PUNISHMENT ANYMORE... NO ONE EXCEPT JAKE GALLOWS... A WEAPONS SPECIALIST IN THE PUBLIC EYE POLICE FORCE BY DAY. AT NIGHT HE IS INCORRUPTIBLE JUSTICE.
STAN LEE PRESENTS.
THE PUNISHER 2099
THEY CALL THEM "MOONCHILDREN"...
OFFICIALLY THESE KIDS ARE EX-CITIZENS OF THE LUNA COLONIES... LACKING EMPLOYMENT, THEY'RE SHIPPED TO EARTH...
DEGEN HOSTEL ALL WELCOME
ALCOHOL'S ILLEGAL ON THE MOON... SO WHEN THEY COME DOWN HERE, ALL THEY DO IS DRINK...
HE'LL DO NICELY! SKIN UP, GUYS!
YEAH! FLAYING TIME!
...AND GO CRAZY FROM THE AGORAPHOBIA--THE FEAR OF OPEN SPACES THEY HAVE AFTER BEING REARED IN PRESSURE DOMES.
TAKE HIS FLEECE!

PUNISHER 2099™ Vol. 1, No. 22, November, 1994. (ISSN # 1066-3505) Published by MARVEL COMICS, Terry Stewart, President, Stan Lee, Publisher, Michael Hobson, Group Vice President, Publishing. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, NY 10016. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. Published monthly. Copyright © 1994 Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price $1.50 per copy in the U.S. and $2.05 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: $18.00 U.S., $30.00 foreign, and Canadian subscribers must add $10.00 for postage and GST. GST #R127032852. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. PUNISHER 2099 (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) is a trademark of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO PUNISHER 2099, c/o MARVEL DIRECT MARKETING CORP. SUBSCRIPTION DEPT. P.O. BOX 1979 DANBURY, CT. 06813-1979. TELEPHONE # (212) 696-0910. PRINTED IN USA.


EARTH'S OPEN SKY BOTHERS THEM... ESPECIALLY WHEN IT DROPS ACID RAIN ONTO THEIR FRAGILE COMPLEXIONS...
IT'S ALSO WHY THEY'RE SO UGLY! ALTHOUGH THAT'S NOT THEIR FAULT...
...BUT SKINNING PEOPLE ALIVE IS.
THEY WANT FRESH SKIN TO COVER THEIR FACES. THEN ALL THEY NEED IS A "GRAFTOMATIC" AND A BENT DOCTOR ...TO HAVE A WEATHERPROOF COMPLEXION.
MUST LEAD THEM AWAY FROM THE HOSTEL...
...ONLY ONE CHANCE FOR ME--CALL JAKE ON MY WRIST COMMUNICATOR...
...THE PUNISHER WILL DEAL WITH THEM!
BEING PHYSICALLY WEAK FROM THE LOW-G, THEY HAVE TO RUN AROUND IN GANGS, GIVING THEIR VICTIMS PRE-OP BEATINGS.
SHOCK! HE'LL NEVER GET HERE IN TIME. MAYBE HE WON'T EVEN TRY... I WAS PRETTY HARD ON HIM WHEN WE PARTED.
THE MOONCHILDREN CAUSE SO MUCH TROUBLE--IT WOULD BE NICE JUST TO SMASH THEM ON SIGHT.
BUT I HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL THEY ACTUALLY DO SOMETHING WRONG...
NICE PINK EPIDERMIS!
NO ZITS OR SCARS!
YEAH... SMOOTH, MAN... SMOOTH...

GREAT! NOW I CAN REALLY GO AFTER THEM!
SIGS OF THE GOTHED
PAT MILLS & TONY SKINNER WRITERS
SIMON COLEBY PENCILER
KEITH WILLIAMS INKER
FELIX & WELLS LETTERS
IAN LAUGHLIN COLOR
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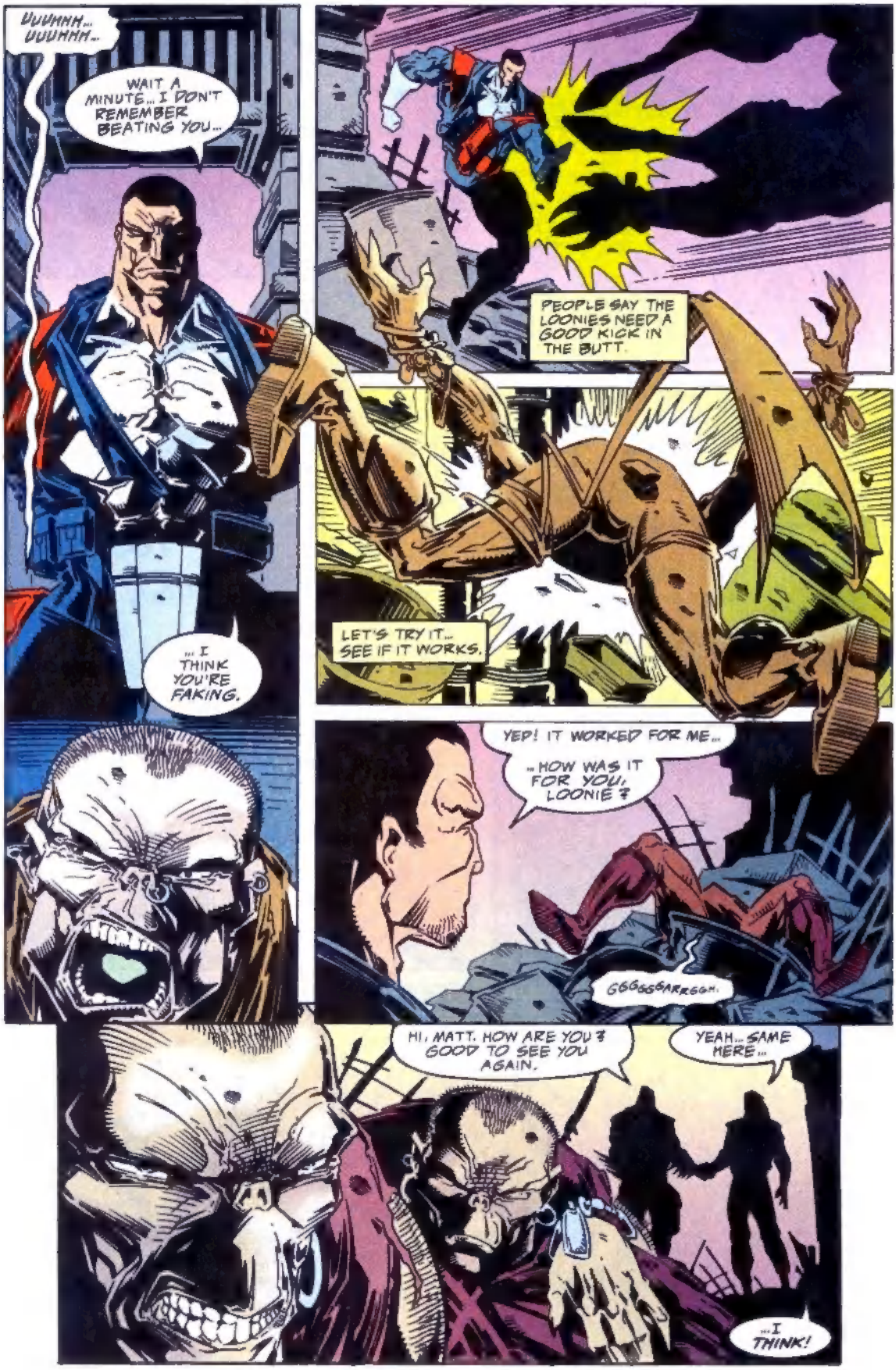
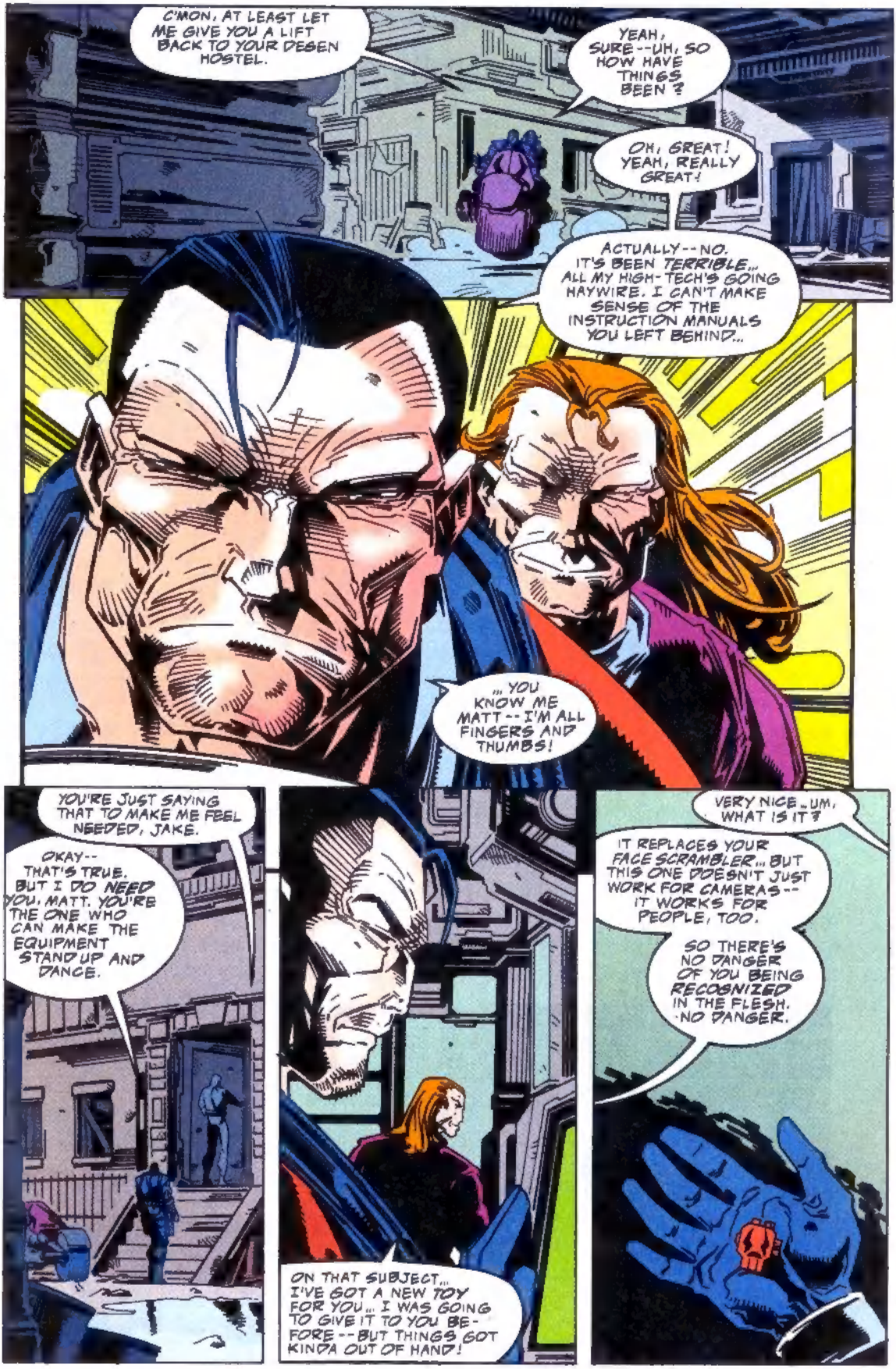
HEY, THERE'S NO NEED FOR THIS, EARTHER.
IT'S ALL A MISTAKE. WE THOUGHT HE'D STOLEN SOMETHING FROM OUR FRIEND.
TYPICAL OF THE MOONCHILDREN. BASICALLY COWARDS, THEY'LL SMILE, GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO SLASH OUT... AND THEN RUN AWAY...
COME ON, EARTHER. SHAKE MY HAND. WE'LL SAY NO MORE OF THIS...
PUNISHMENT TIME!
YAAGH!
HAA, HAA, HAA! TAKE YOUR SKIN, TOO!
HIS "FRIEND" COMES TO THE RESCUE... BUT I DON'T THINK OF THEM AS COMRADES IN ARMS...
...THEY'RE RABID DOGS, FIGHTING AS PACK ANIMALS.

I'M GOING TO ENJOY HURTING THEM...
A GOOD POWER-BATTING WILL RESOLVE THE SENSITIVE ISSUES OF THEIR MEDICAL CONDITION.
POWER-BAT HALF HARD... YOU SCUM AREN'T WORTH MAX DENSITY.
OW...! LEAVE ME ALONE, MISTER!
I SEE MYSELF AS A KINDA... SOCIAL WORKER.
I'M NOT GOING TO LEAVE YOU ALONE UNTIL YOU'VE ALL BEEN HOSPITALIZED!

AND WHEN YOU COME OUT OF THE HOSPITAL, I'LL BE WAITING OUTSIDE TO CRIPPLE YOU AGAIN!
SCUM... THEY ALWAYS PICK ON WEAK TARGETS... THEY HAVEN'T GOT THE GUTS TO FIGHT IT OUT WITH SOMEONE LIKE ME...
THAT'S ENOUGH, MY FRIEND... BACK OFF OR I OPEN HIS THROAT.
NO, I DON'T THINK SO...
...BECAUSE YOU'RE SPINELESS AND WE BOTH KNOW THAT IF YOU CUT HIM, I'LL RIP YOUR ARMS OFF AND FEED THEM TO YOU!
ER... ER...
IDIOT! I'M GONNA DO IT ANYWAY!


UUUHHH... UUUHHH...
WAIT A MINUTE... I DON'T REMEMBER BEATING YOU...
... I THINK YOU'RE FAKING.
PEOPLE SAY THE LOONIES NEED A GOOD KICK IN THE BUTT.
LET'S TRY IT... SEE IF IT WORKS.
YEP! IT WORKED FOR ME...
... HOW WAS IT FOR YOU, LOONIE?
GGGGGARRGGH.
HI, MATT. HOW ARE YOU? GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN.
YEAH... SAME HERE...
... I THINK!

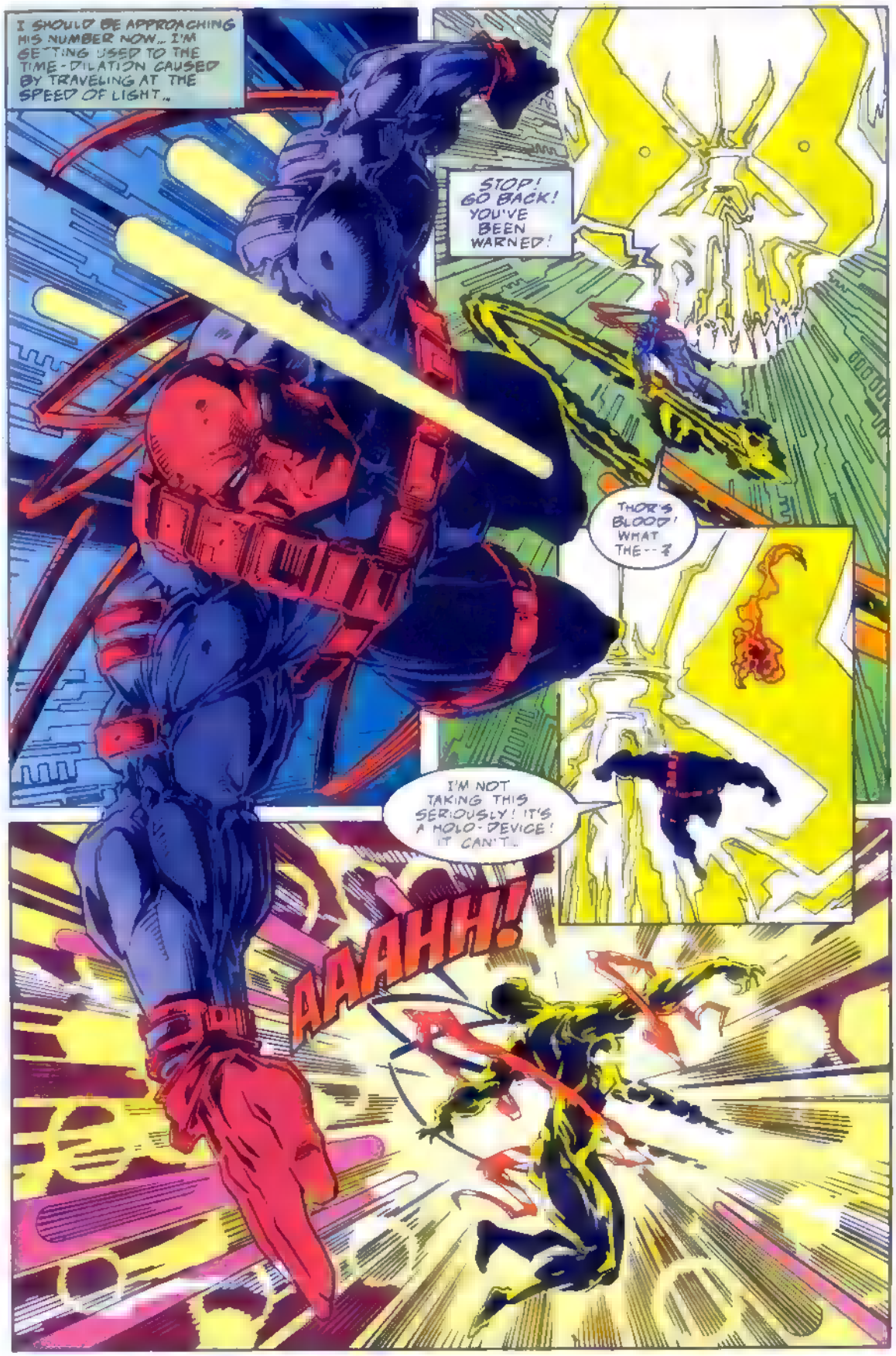

C'MON, AT LEAST LET ME GIVE YOU A LIFT BACK TO YOUR DEGEN HOSTEL.
YEAH, SURE--UM, SO HOW HAVE THINGS BEEN?
OH, GREAT! YEAH, REALLY GREAT!
ACTUALLY--NO. IT'S BEEN TERRIBLE... ALL MY HIGH-TECH'S GOING HAYWIRE. I CAN'T MAKE SENSE OF THE INSTRUCTION MANUALS YOU LEFT BEHIND...
... YOU KNOW ME MATT--I'M ALL FINGERS AND THUMBS!
YOU'RE JUST SAYING THAT TO MAKE ME FEEL NEEDED, JAKE.
OKAY--THAT'S TRUE. BUT I DO NEED YOU, MATT. YOU'RE THE ONE WHO CAN MAKE THE EQUIPMENT STAND UP AND DANCE.
ON THAT SUBJECT... I'VE GOT A NEW TOY FOR YOU... I WAS GOING TO GIVE IT TO YOU BEFORE--BUT THINGS GOT KINDA OUT OF HAND!
VERY NICE...UM, WHAT IS IT?
IT REPLACES YOUR FACE SCRAMBLER... BUT THIS ONE DOESN'T JUST WORK FOR CAMERAS--IT WORKS FOR PEOPLE, TOO.
SO THERE'S NO DANGER OF YOU BEING RECOGNIZED IN THE FLESH. NO DANGER.

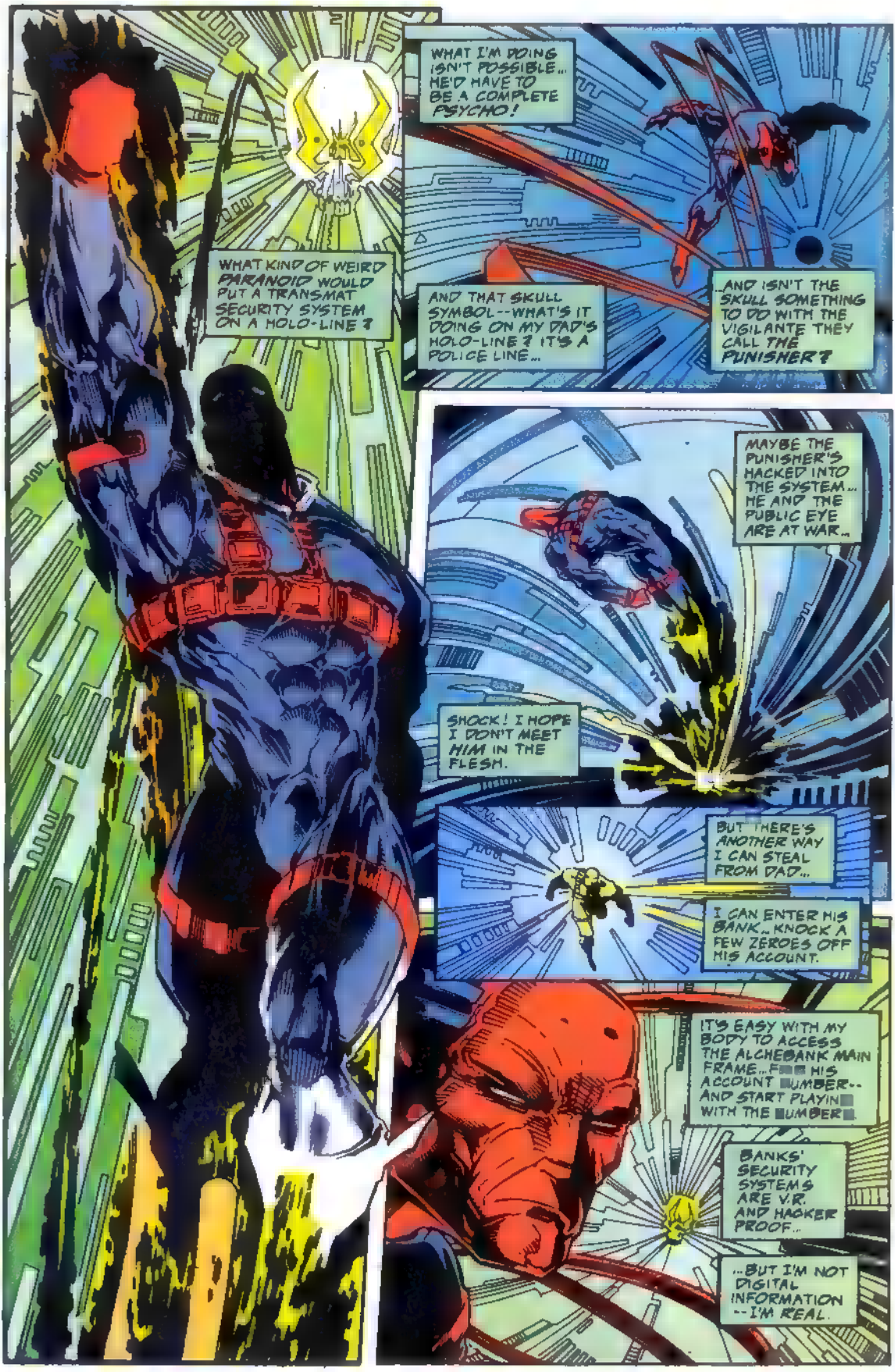
FROM MY SIDE, EVERYTHING SEEMS NORMAL... HOW DO I LOOK?
LIKE DEATH...
IT'S A MIRAGE-EFFECT HOLOGRAM IMAGE INVERTER... IT'S ON BASIC SKULL MODE AT THE MOMENT, BUT YOU CAN DISGUISE YOURSELF AS ANYONE YOU LIKE...
IT HAS A "STARTER PACK" OF FIFTY PROMINENT PEOPLE.
WHAT ABOUT RETINA SCANS? DOES IT HAVE A--
PLEASE, JAKE. THIS IS ME. OKAY? BELIEVE ME, IT HAS EVERYTHING.
GREAT. AND IT'S ALL DONE WITH JUST A SMALL CHIP ON THE SHOULDER. NO SWEATY MASK.

ELSEWHERE...
DEAN... I DON'T THINK THIS IS SUCH A GOOD IDEA...
IT'S THE BEST ONE I'VE HAD.. HE DESERVES IT--OKAY?
LOOK--BURGLARIZING THE ANONYMOUS RICH IS ONE THING... BUT ROBBING YOUR OWN DAD IS A BIT HEAVY.
YOU'VE GOT TO DRAW THE LINE SOMEWHERE.
YES! AND HE DREW IT!
HE STOLE MY CHILDHOOD, CHUCK! WHEN I NEEDED HIM, HE WASN'T THERE FOR ME... HIS WORK WAS [redacted] IMPORTANT...
HE WAS OBSESSED WITH HUNTING DOWN TEENAGE GANGS... YET HE IGNORED HIS OWN TEENAGE SON!
CONNECTION SUCCESS! CONNECTION SUCCESS!
HE STILL LIVES IN [redacted]RAN'S OLD BROWNSTONE... I'LL SHOW HIM... SHOW HIM THERE'S A PRICE TO BE PAID FOR CROSSING NOTWIRE.
GREAT... I'M THROUGH!
HI... THIS IS OFFICER JAKE GALLOWS... I'M NOT HOME RIGHT NOW... BUT CONTACT ME AT THE PUBLIC EYE INFORMATION DESK... OR LEAVE A MESSAGE AFTER MY IMAGE FADES.
TYPICAL... DOES HE NEVER GET OUT OF UNIFORM?

BUT IT'S GREAT HE'S AWAY... I DON'T WANT TO MEET HIM -- I JUST WANT HIS POSSESSIONS.
STAND BACK, CHUCK-- I'M BEAMING IN...
...NOW!
CRASH!
HE'LL NEVER GUESS WHAT'S HAPPENED.. I'M A LIVING IMPOSSIBILITY -- MATTER CAN'T TRANSMIT DOWN A HOLOBEAM...
...BUT I'M DOING IT RIGHT NOW!

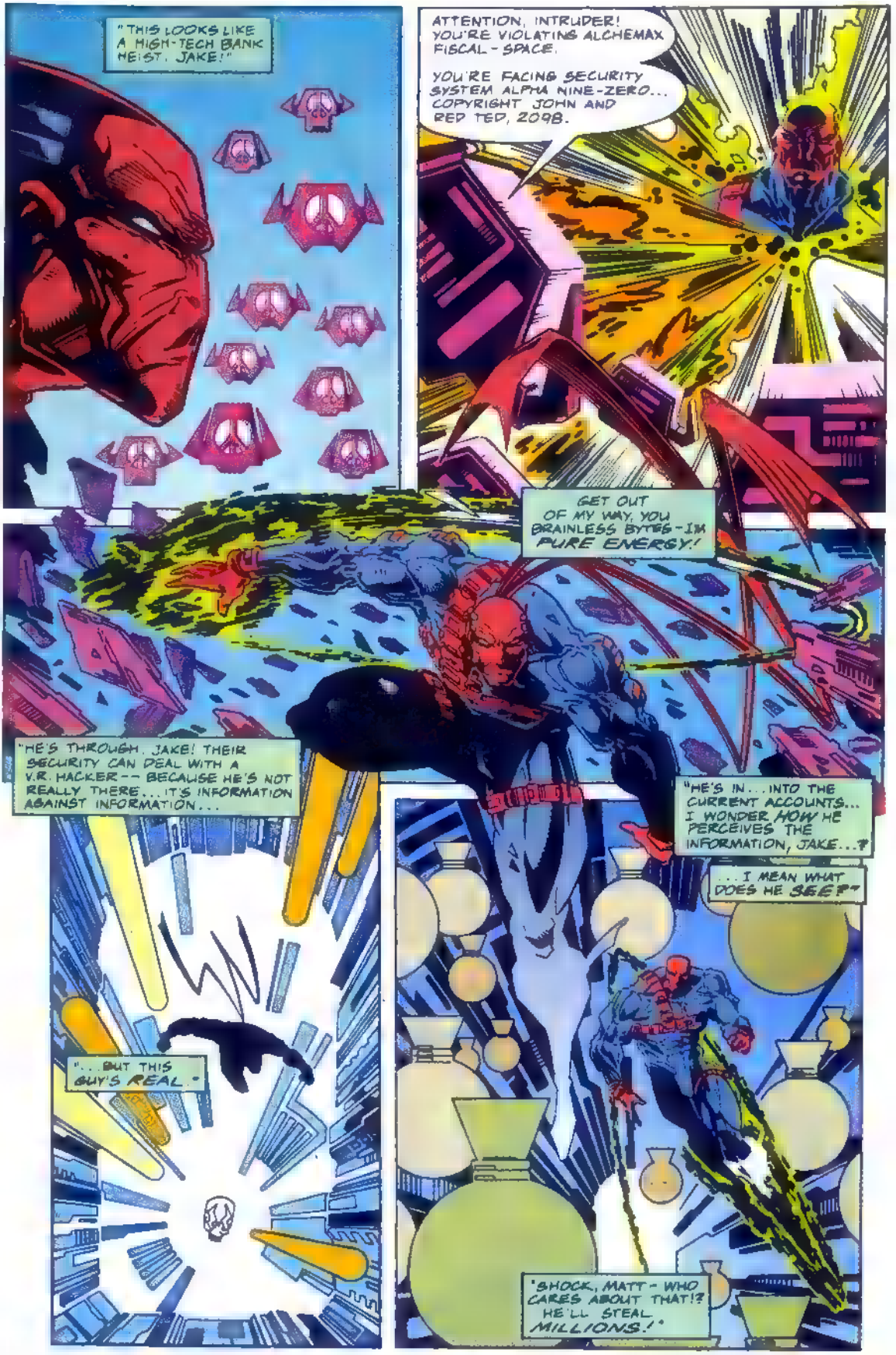
BESIDES, HE THINKS I'M DEAD--"MISSING IN ACTION"...
WHEN THE SUN FLARE SCREWED UP THE TRANS-MAT SATELLITE BEAM, I WAS OFFICIALLY BLOWN INTO ATOMS...
...SO THEY HELD AN HONORARY FUNERAL FOR ME, COMPLETE WITH A TWENTY-ONE GUN SALUTE...
ALL MY COMRADES WERE THERE... MY GRAN... UNCLE BALDUR... MOM...
SHOCK! EVEN I WAS THERE... WATCHING THE FUNERAL [redacted] A NEARBY HILL...
...BUT GUESS WHO WASN'T THERE?
HE NEVER HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH ME WHILE I WAS ALIVE... AND HE COULDN'T EVEN BE BOTHERED TO TURN UP AT MY FUNERAL...
...IT WAS AS IF I'D NEVER EXISTED.


I SHOULD BE APPROACHING HIS NUMBER NOW... I'M GETTING USED TO THE TIME-DILATION CAUSED BY TRAVELING AT THE SPEED OF LIGHT...
STOP! GO BACK! YOU'VE BEEN WARNED!
THOR'S BLOOD! WHAT THE--?
I'M NOT TAKING THIS SERIOUSLY! IT'S A HOLO-DEVICE! IT CAN'T...
AAAHH!

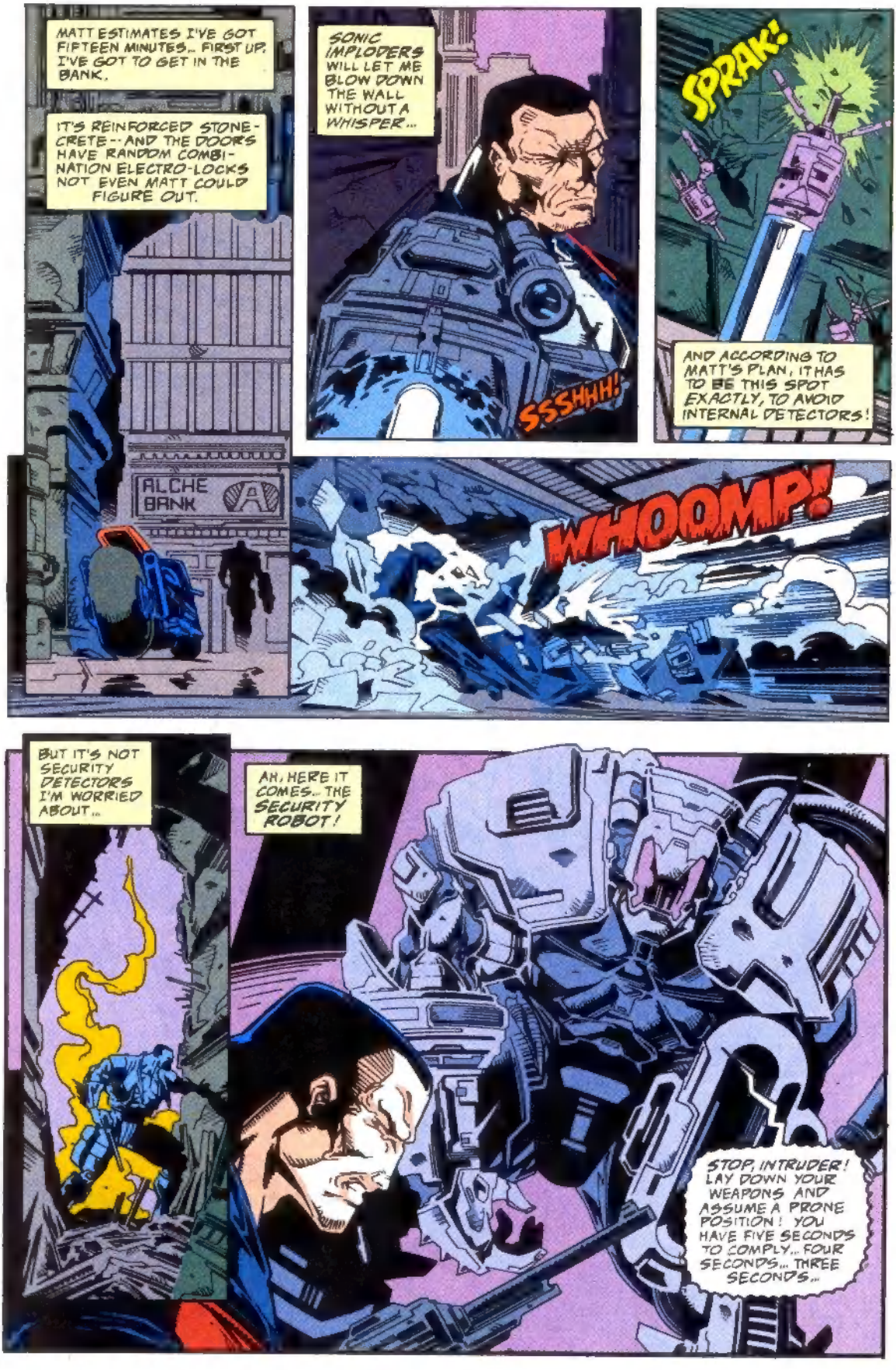

WHAT I'M DOING ISN'T POSSIBLE... HE'D HAVE TO BE A COMPLETE PSYCHO!
WHAT KIND OF WEIRD PARANOID WOULD PUT A TRANSMAT SECURITY SYSTEM ON A HOLO-LINE?
AND THAT SKULL SYMBOL--WHAT'S IT DOING ON MY DAD'S HOLO-LINE? IT'S A POLICE LINE...
...AND ISN'T THE SKULL SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE VIGILANTE THEY CALL THE PUNISHER?
MAYBE THE PUNISHER'S HACKED INTO THE SYSTEM... HE AND THE PUBLIC EYE ARE AT WAR...
SHOCK! I HOPE I DON'T MEET HIM IN THE FLESH.
BUT THERE'S ANOTHER WAY I CAN STEAL FROM DAD...
I CAN ENTER HIS BANK... KNOCK A FEW ZEROES OFF HIS ACCOUNT.
IT'S EASY WITH MY BODY TO ACCESS THE ALCHEBANK MAIN FRAME... FIND HIS ACCOUNT NUMBER... AND START PLAYING WITH THE NUMBERS.
BANKS' SECURITY SYSTEMS ARE V.R. AND HACKER PROOF...
...BUT I'M NOT DIGITAL INFORMATION --I'M REAL.

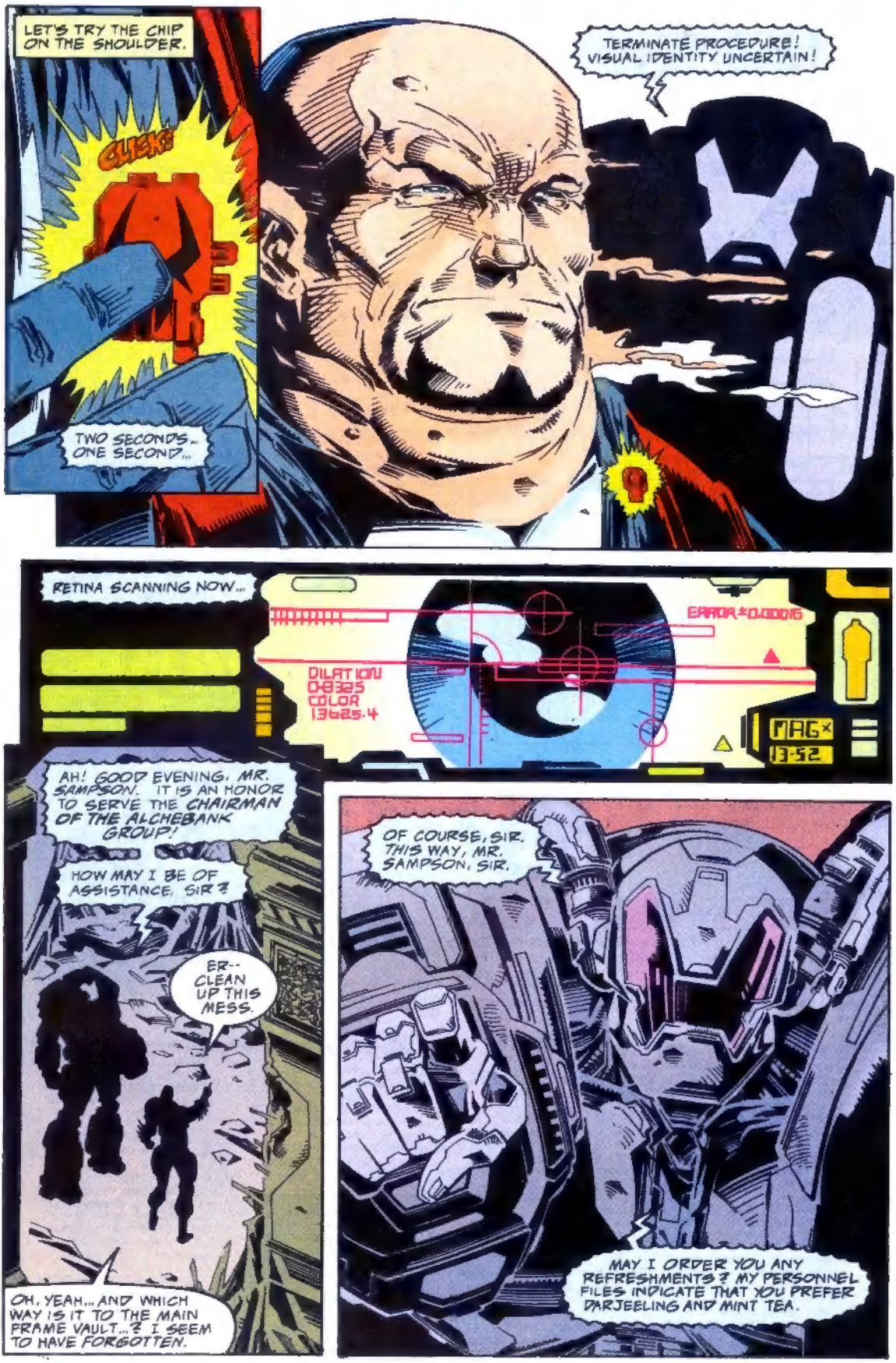
RIGHT... THAT'S COMPRESSED YOUR CRIME FILES--YOU'LL FIND YOU HAVE A LOT MORE MEMORY LEFT IN YOUR SYSTEM.
IT'S GOOD TO HAVE YOU BACK, MATT.
I'LL JUST INITIALIZE YOUR-- THAT'S ODD!
BEEP!
WHAT IS?
SECURITY INTERRUPTION... ENERGY ANOMALY-- RESISTED... TRACKING SOURCE...
SECURITY
WELL, YOU KNOW THAT RIDICULOUS SECURITY LOOP YOU HAD ME PUT ON THE HOLO-PHONE?
IT WASN'T RIDICULOUS-- THE PUNISHER MUST HAVE TWO HUNDRED PER CENT SECURITY-- BACK-UPS FOR THE BACK-UPS...
...ANYWAY, WHAT ABOUT IT?
WELL, IT JUST REGISTERED AN ATTEMPTED ENERGY INVASION...IN OTHER WORDS-- SOMETHING, APART FROM INFORMATION, WAS COMING DOWN THE LINE TOWARDS YOU.
QUITE IMPOSSIBLE, OF COURSE...

NO, NOT IMPOSSIBLE -- IT JUST HAPPENED.
CAN WE TRACK IT?
THE SYSTEM HAS ALREADY INITIATED ITS AUTO-TRACK FACILITY.
WELL, WELL. WHAT DO YOU KNOW? YOUR PARANOIA FINALLY PAID OFF.
MEANING?
ACCORDING TO THESE READINGS, IT WAS A HIGH-ENERGY TRANSMAT SIGNAL, USING THE HOLO-LINE.
SOMEONE WAS TRYING TO PHYSICALLY ENTER THIS BUILDING USING THE HOLO. BUT THAT'S BEEN PROVED IMPOSSI--
WHERE IS HE NOW, MATT?
LET ■ SEE... HE'S ENTERING A MAINFRAME FACILITY... HE'S ABOUT TO HIT THE SECURITY...
MATT -- YOU'RE BEING REALLY ANNOYING. WHICH MAINFRAME? WHERE ■ HE?
"OH, THAT... HE'S AT ALCHE-BANK..."


"THIS LOOKS LIKE A HIGH-TECH BANK HEIST, JAKE!"
ATTENTION, INTRUDER! YOU'RE VIOLATING ALCHEMAX FISCAL-SPACE.
YOU'RE FACING SECURITY SYSTEM ALPHA NINE-ZERO... COPYRIGHT JOHN AND RED TED, 2098.
GET OUT OF MY WAY, YOU BRAINLESS BYTES-I'M PURE ENERGY!
"HE'S THROUGH, JAKE! THEIR SECURITY CAN DEAL WITH A V.R. HACKER-- BECAUSE HE'S NOT REALLY THERE... IT'S INFORMATION AGAINST INFORMATION...
"HE'S IN... INTO THE CURRENT ACCOUNTS... I WONDER HOW HE PERCEIVES THE INFORMATION, JAKE...?
...I MEAN WHAT DOES HE SEE?"
"...BUT THIS GUY'S REAL."
"SHOCK, MATT - WHO CARES ABOUT THAT!? HE'LL STEAL MILLIONS!"

APPARENTLY NOT ... ACCORDING TO THIS, HE'S ONLY AFTER ONE ACCOUNT.
OH, YEAH - WHOSE? SOME BLACK CARDER...?
JAKE GALLOWS
80366907
"ER--IT'S YOUR ACCOUNT, JAKE!"
MY ACCOUNT? WHAT'S GOING ON? I'VE GOT TO GET IN THAT BANK QUICK. --BEFORE [redacted] ESCAPES.
HE'S NOT GOING ANYWHERE. I'M SWITCHING THE PUNISHER TRANSMAT SECURITY TRACE ONTO ATTACK MODE...
...BLOCKING HIS ESCAPE.
BUT [redacted] QUICK, JAKE. BEFORE THE ALCHEMAX MOTHER SYSTEM SPOTS THE ANOMALY AND STARTS HITTING ALARMS.


MATT ESTIMATES I'VE GOT FIFTEEN MINUTES... FIRST UP, I'VE GOT TO GET IN THE BANK.
IT'S REINFORCED STONE-CRETE--AND THE DOOR'S HAVE RANDOM COMBI-NATION ELECTRO-LOCKS NOT EVEN MATT COULD FIGURE OUT.
ALCHE BANK
SONIC IMPLODERS WILL LET ME BLOW DOWN THE WALL WITHOUT A WHISPER...
SSSHHH!
SPRAK!
AND ACCORDING TO MATT'S PLAN, IT HAS TO BE THIS SPOT EXACTLY, TO AVOID INTERNAL DETECTORS!
WHOOMP!
BUT IT'S NOT SECURITY DETECTORS I'M WORRIED ABOUT...
AH, HERE IT COMES... THE SECURITY ROBOT!
STOP, INTRUDER! LAY DOWN YOUR WEAPONS AND ASSUME A PRONE POSITION! YOU HAVE FIVE SECONDS TO COMPLY... FOUR SECONDS... THREE SECONDS...


LET'S TRY THE CHIP ON THE SHOULDER.
CLICK!
TWO SECONDS... ONE SECOND...
TERMINATE PROCEDURE! VISUAL IDENTITY UNCERTAIN!
RETINA SCANNING NOW...
DILATION 08325
COLOR 13625.4
ERROR ±0.0006
MAG× 13-52
AH! GOOD EVENING, MR. SAMPSON. IT IS AN HONOR TO SERVE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ALCHEBANK GROUP!
HOW MAY I BE OF ASSISTANCE, SIR?
ER-- CLEAN UP THIS MESS.
OH, YEAH... AND WHICH WAY IS IT TO THE MAIN FRAME VAULT...? I SEEM TO HAVE FORGOTTEN.
OF COURSE, SIR. THIS WAY, MR. SAMPSON, SIR.
MAY I ORDER YOU ANY REFRESHMENTS? MY PERSONNEL FILES INDICATE THAT YOU PREFER DARJEELING AND MINT TEA.

GOT IT—CLEANED OUT DAD'S BANK ACCOUNT... ALL INTO MY NEW DELAYED-ACCESS "SEARCH BOX."
ALL I GOTTA DO IS OPEN A DEPOSIT/OPTION ACCOUNT AND ONE WEEK LATER THE BOX WILL FILL IT WITH OFFICER GALLOWS' HARD EARNED CREDS... TAX FREE AND UNTRACEABLE!
NOW TO GET OUT OF HERE!
HUNDREDS OF PUNISHER SYMBOLS COMING AT ME!
THIS TIME I'LL FIGHT!
AAAHHH! I'M OUTNUMBERED.. GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE!
NEVER DONE THIS BEFORE... BUT I'VE GOT TO MATERIALIZE OUT OF THE CABLE! SOMEWHERE IN THE BANK!

CONVERTING FROM DIGITAL TO CORPOREAL..
...NOW!
UUUGHH...! KOFF!? WHAT--?
THE PUNISHER?!
THAT'S RIGHT, PUNK... I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU...
NEXT ISSUE:
FATHER VS. SON!